MARVEL

'Til Death Do Us Part

26
PART 1

# X-MEN GOLD

GUGGENHEIM
BANDINI
PRIANTO
MARQUEZ
WILSON

# X-MEN GOLD

GENETICALLY GIFTED WITH UNCANNY ABILITIES, MUTANTS ARE BELIEVED TO BE THE NEXT STAGE OF HUMAN EVOLUTION. WHILE THE WORLD HATES AND FEARS THEM, KITTY PRYDE HAS RE-FORMED THE TEAM OF MUTANT HEROES KNOWN AS THE X-MEN TO USE THEIR POWERS FOR GOOD AND SPREAD A POSITIVE IMAGE OF MUTANTKIND.

## PREVIOUSLY IN *X-MEN GOLD...*

WHEN KITTY PRYDE RECONNECTED WITH THE X-MEN, SHE ALSO RECONNECTED WITH FORMER LOVER PIOTR RASPUTIN. THEIR NEW ROMANCE QUICKLY BLOSSOMED INTO AN ENGAGEMENT.

IN THEIR INAUGURAL MISSIONS UNDER KITTY'S COMMAND, THE X-MEN FACED THE TELEPATHIC CRIMINAL MESMERO AND A HIGHLY ADVANCED NANITE-BASED SENTINEL A.I.. BOTH ARE CURRENTLY AT LARGE...

## 'TIL DEATH DO US PART

PART 1

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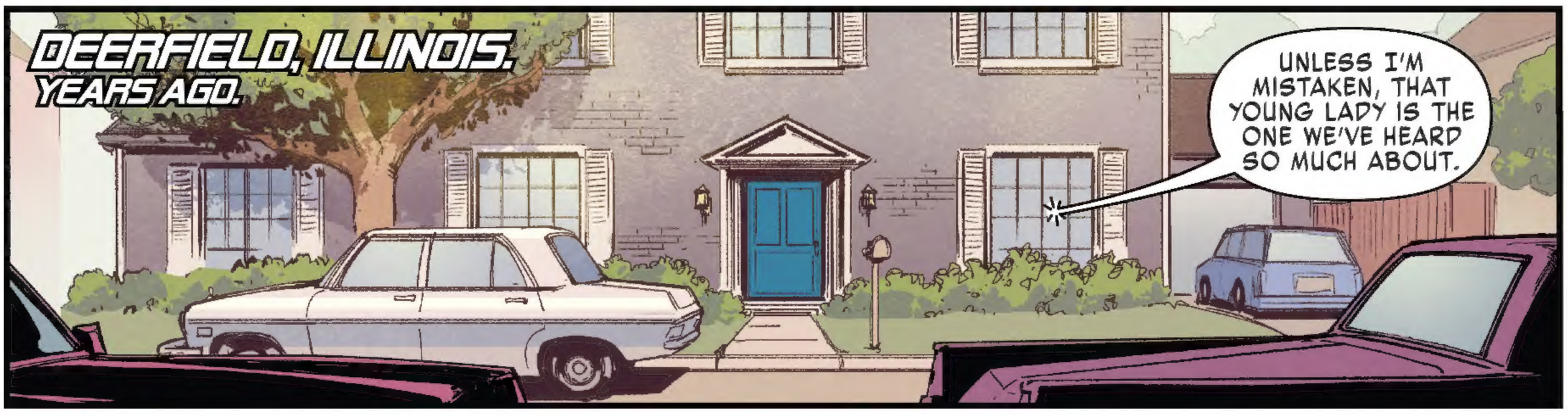
**KITTY PRYDE**

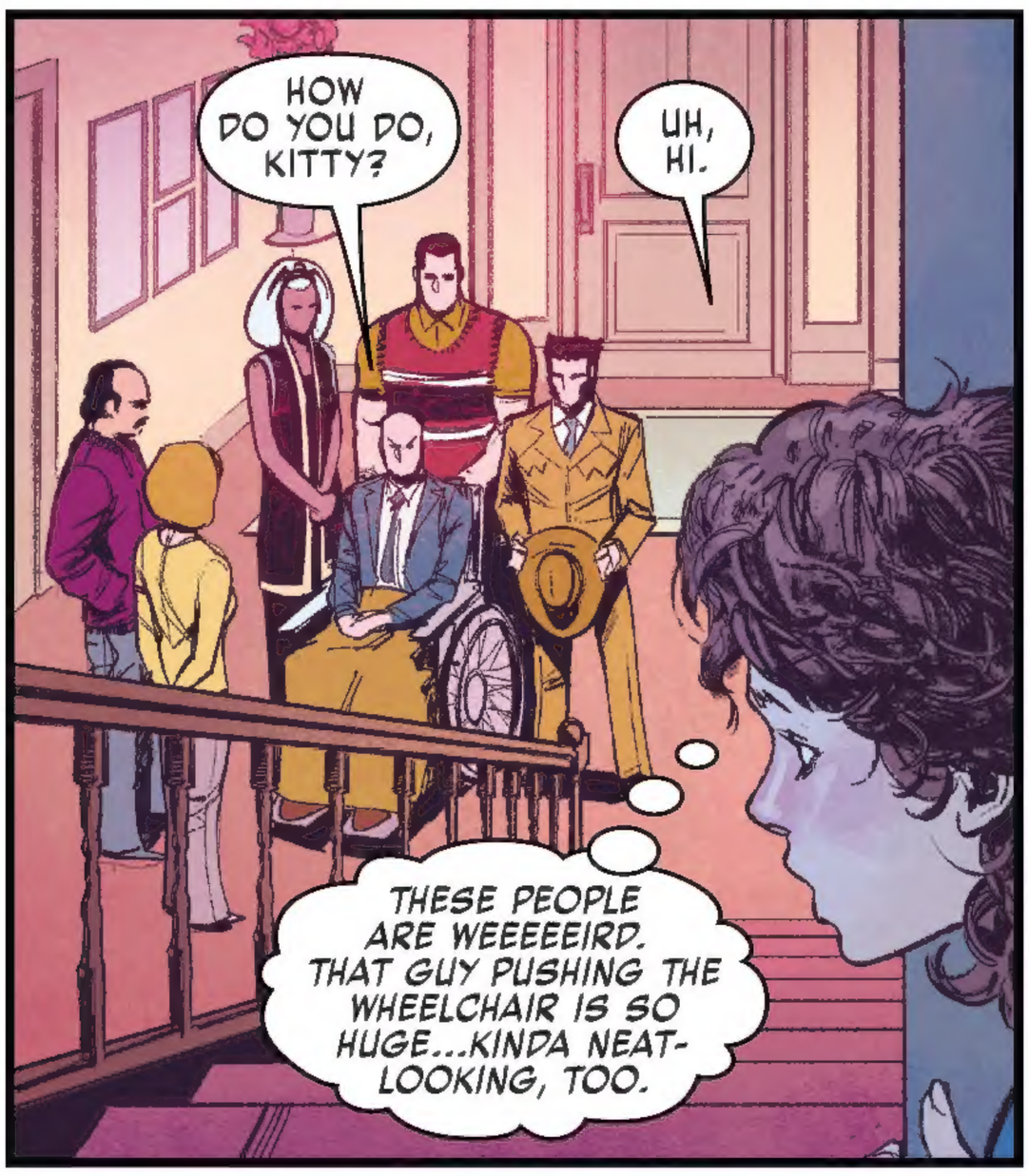
**STORM**
ORORO MUNROE

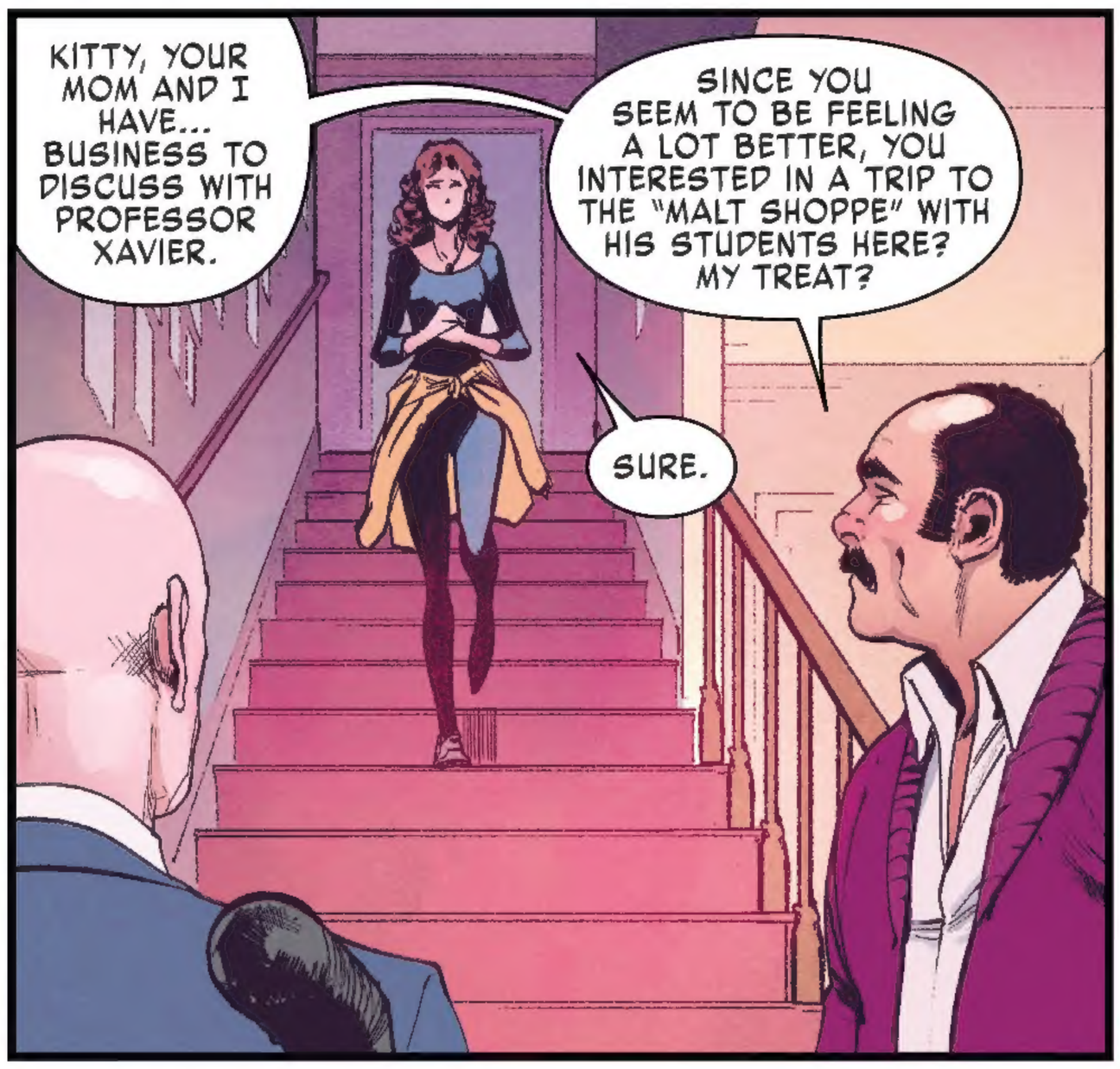
**NIGHTCRAWLER**
KURT WAGNER

**COLOSSUS**
PIOTR RASPUTIN

**PRESTIGE**
RACHEL GREY

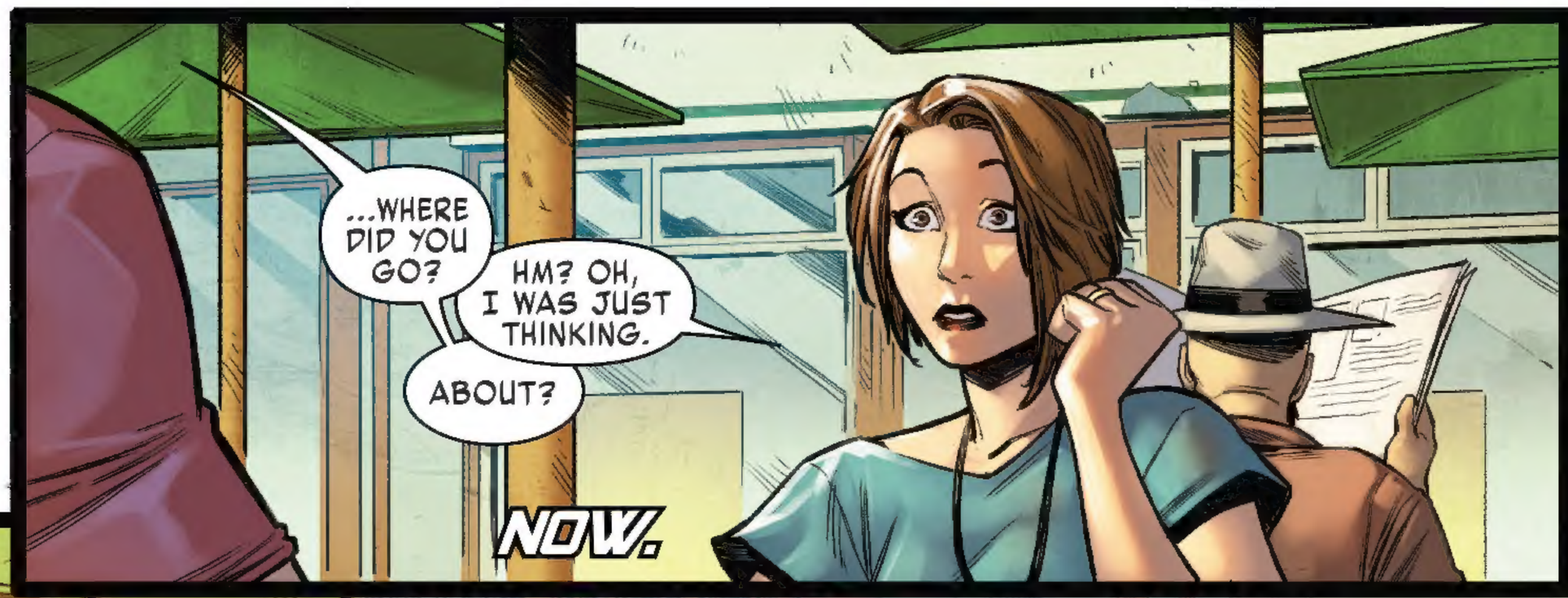

DEERFIELD, ILLINOIS.
YEARS AGO.
UNLESS I'M MISTAKEN, THAT YOUNG LADY IS THE ONE WE'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT.


HOW DO YOU DO, KITTY?
UH, HI.
THESE PEOPLE ARE WEEEEEIRD. THAT GUY PUSHING THE WHEELCHAIR IS SO HUGE...KINDA NEAT-LOOKING, TOO.


KITTY, YOUR MOM AND I HAVE... BUSINESS TO DISCUSS WITH PROFESSOR XAVIER.
SINCE YOU SEEM TO BE FEELING A LOT BETTER, YOU INTERESTED IN A TRIP TO THE "MALT SHOPPE" WITH HIS STUDENTS HERE? MY TREAT?
SURE.

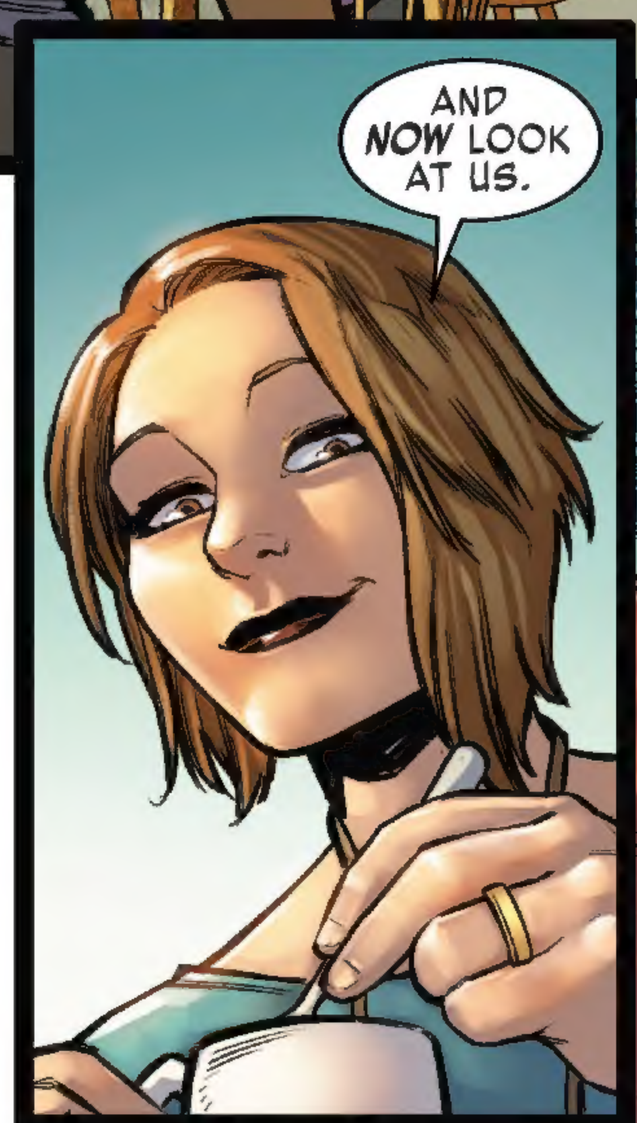
YOU GUYS ARE FROM A SCHOOL?
YES. I'M CHARLES XAVIER. I'M THE HEADMASTER OF A SCHOOL FOR GIFTED INDIVIDUALS SUCH AS YOURSELF.
THESE ARE MY STUDENTS. ORORO MUNROE--
GREETINGS.
PIOTR RASPUTIN--
--AND--
AIN'T NOBODY'S "STUDENT," BUB.

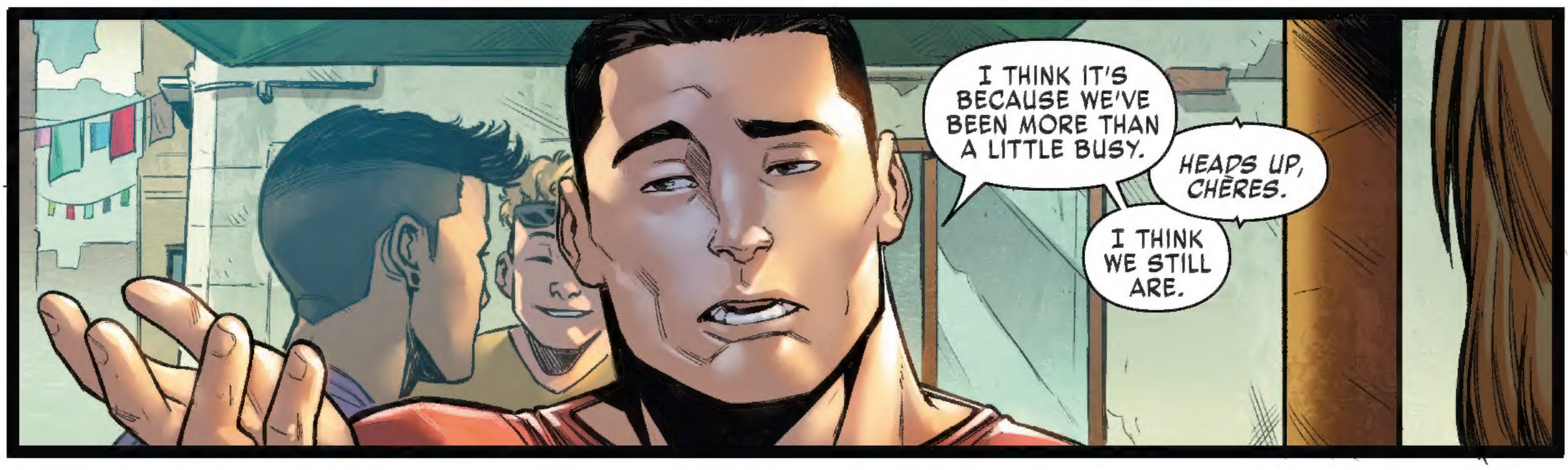
NICE TO MEET YOU... KATYA.
"KATYA." THAT'S SWEET.
IT IS RUSSIAN.
"KATYA..."



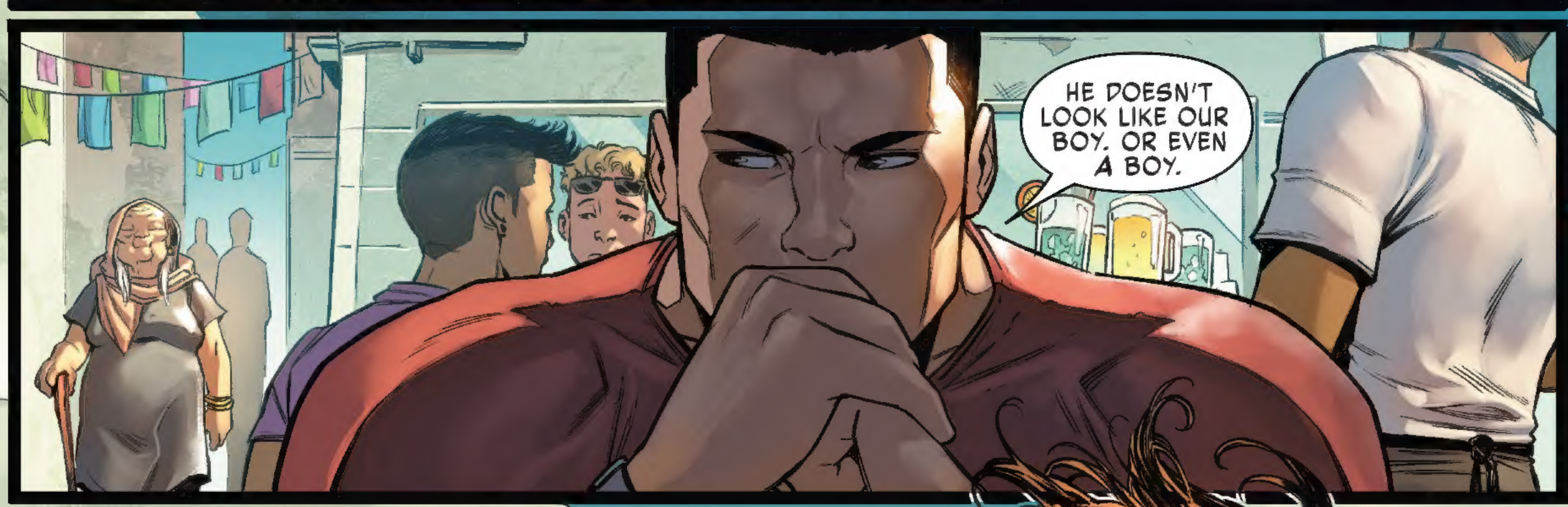

SOUTH AMERICA.
REPUBLIC OF SANTO MARCO.

YOU, ACTUALLY. ABOUT THE FIRST TIME I MET YOU.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE "NEAT-LOOKING."
YOU WERE TOO YOUNG TO LOOK AT ME THAT WAY.
THE WAY YOU LOOKED, KINDA DIDN'T HAVE A *CHOICE.*





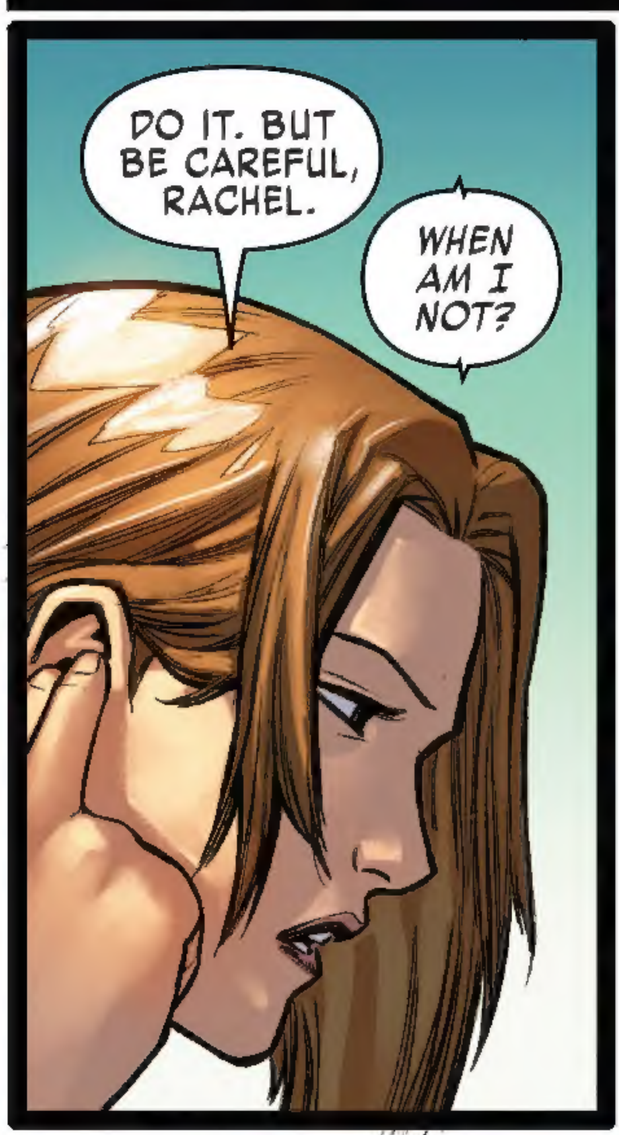
WHAT DO YOU SEE, GAMBIT?
GOT SIGHTS ON OUR BOY.

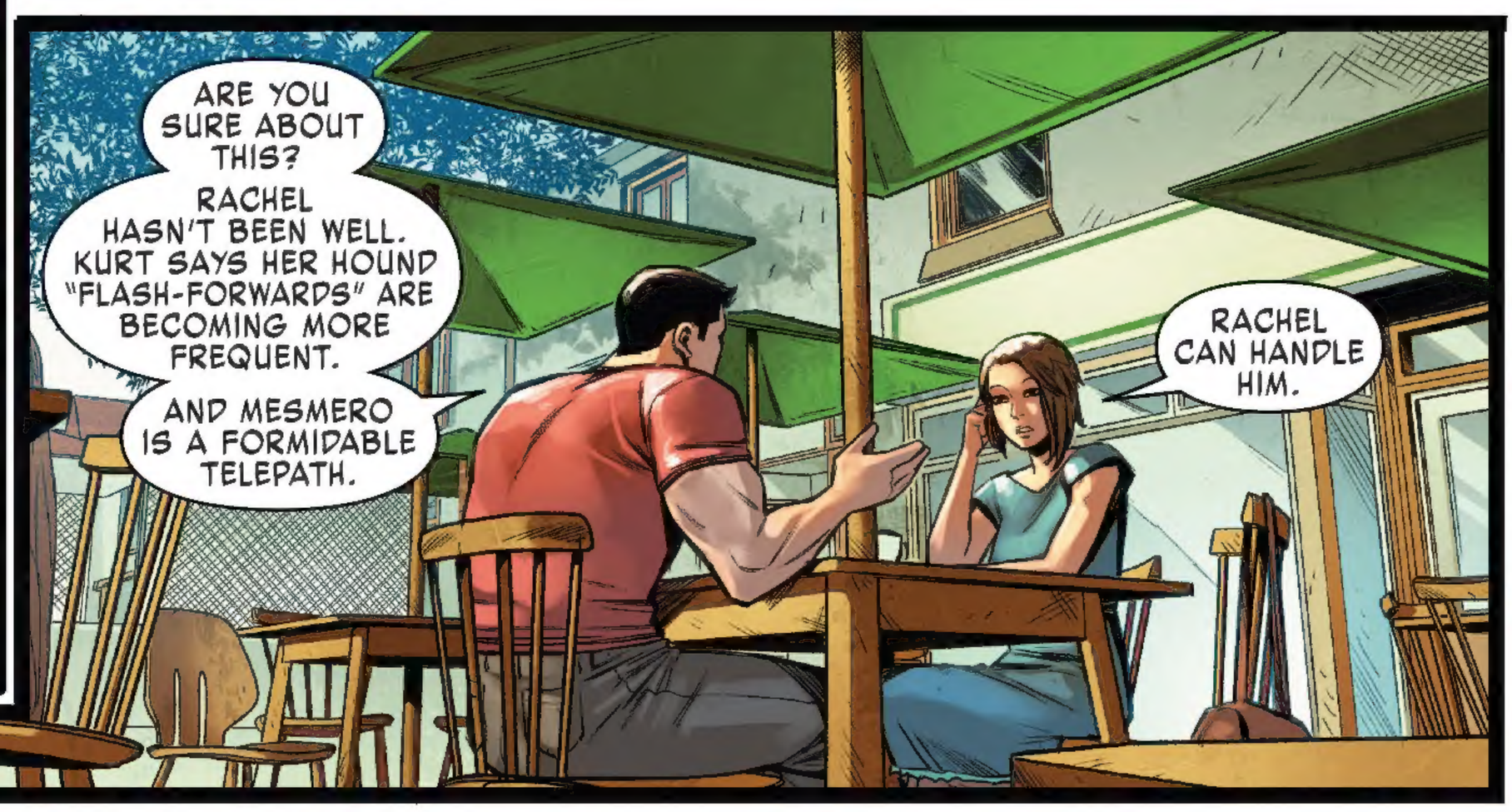

HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE OUR BOY. OR EVEN A BOY.

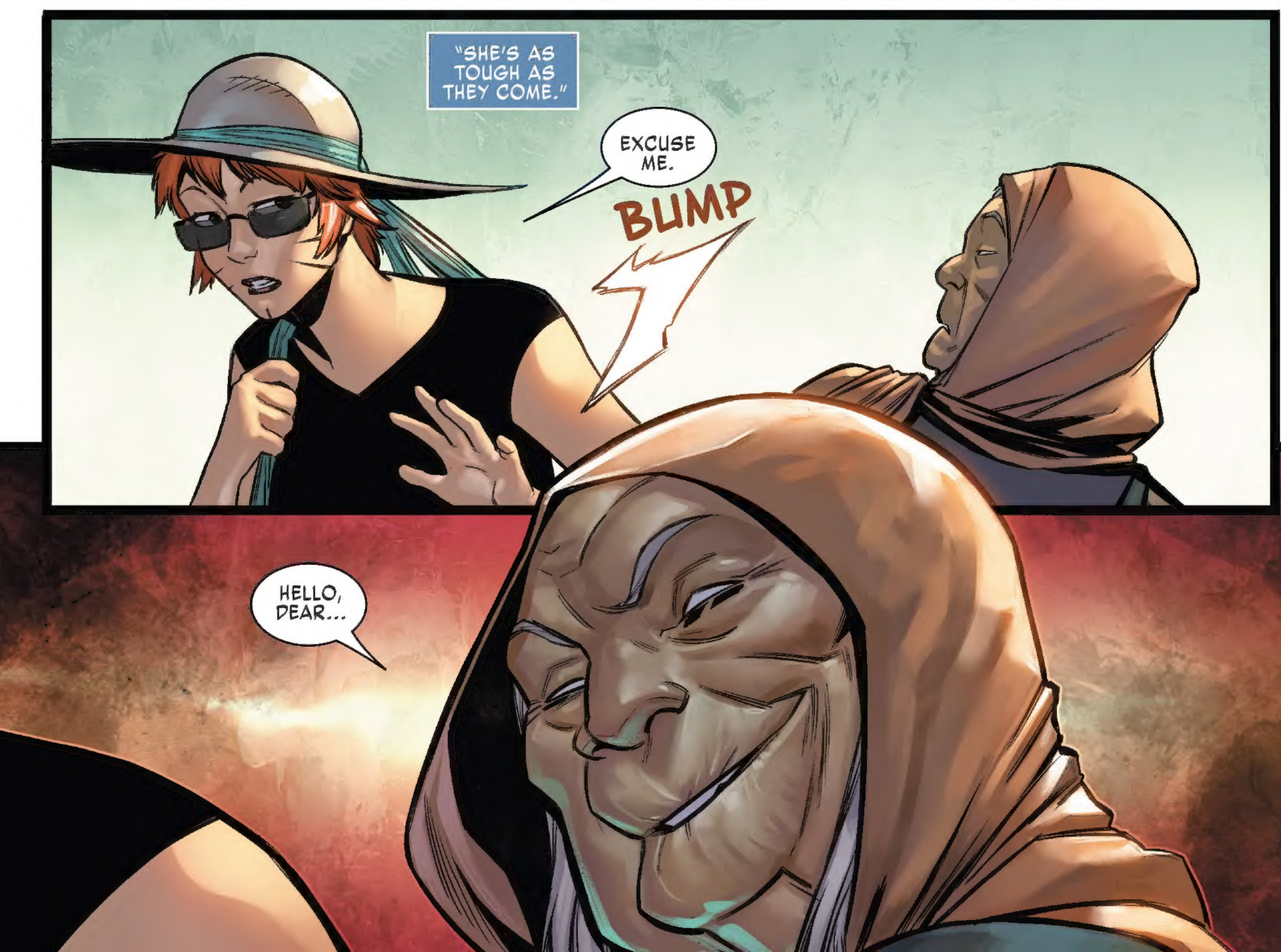
MESMERO'S BEEN ON THE RUN, RIGHT? YOU'VE HAD ME LOOKING FOR HIM, RIGHT?
WELL, I'M TELLING YOU, THAT'S HIM.

IF YOU'RE WRONG, REMY, A DOZEN CELL PHONES ARE GOING TO GET VIDEO OF THE X-MEN ATTACKING AN OLD LADY IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY.
GLAD I'M NOT WRONG, THEN, ROGUE.

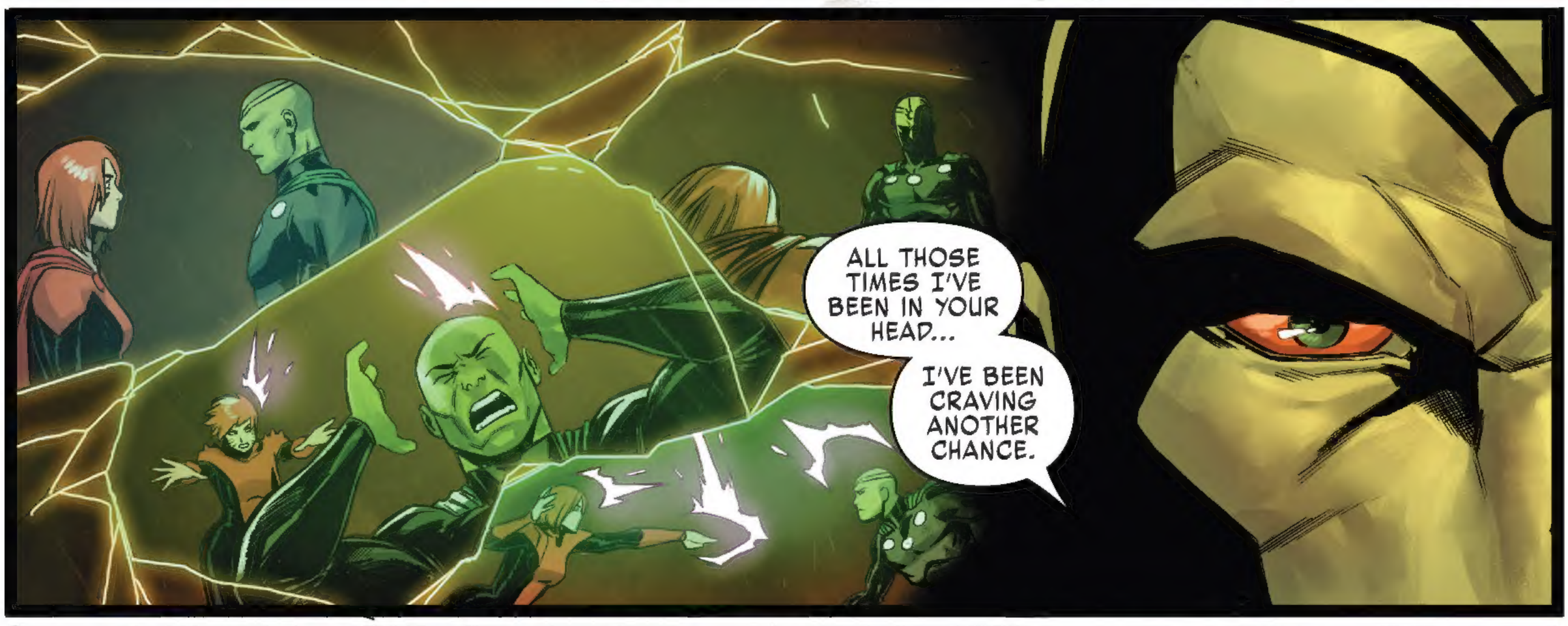
KITTY, I'VE GOT THE EYEBALL. IF I GET CLOSER, I CAN PSI-SCAN OUR TARGET.
IF IT'S REALLY MESMERO, BELIEVE ME, I'LL KNOW.


DO IT. BUT BE CAREFUL, RACHEL.
WHEN AM I NOT?

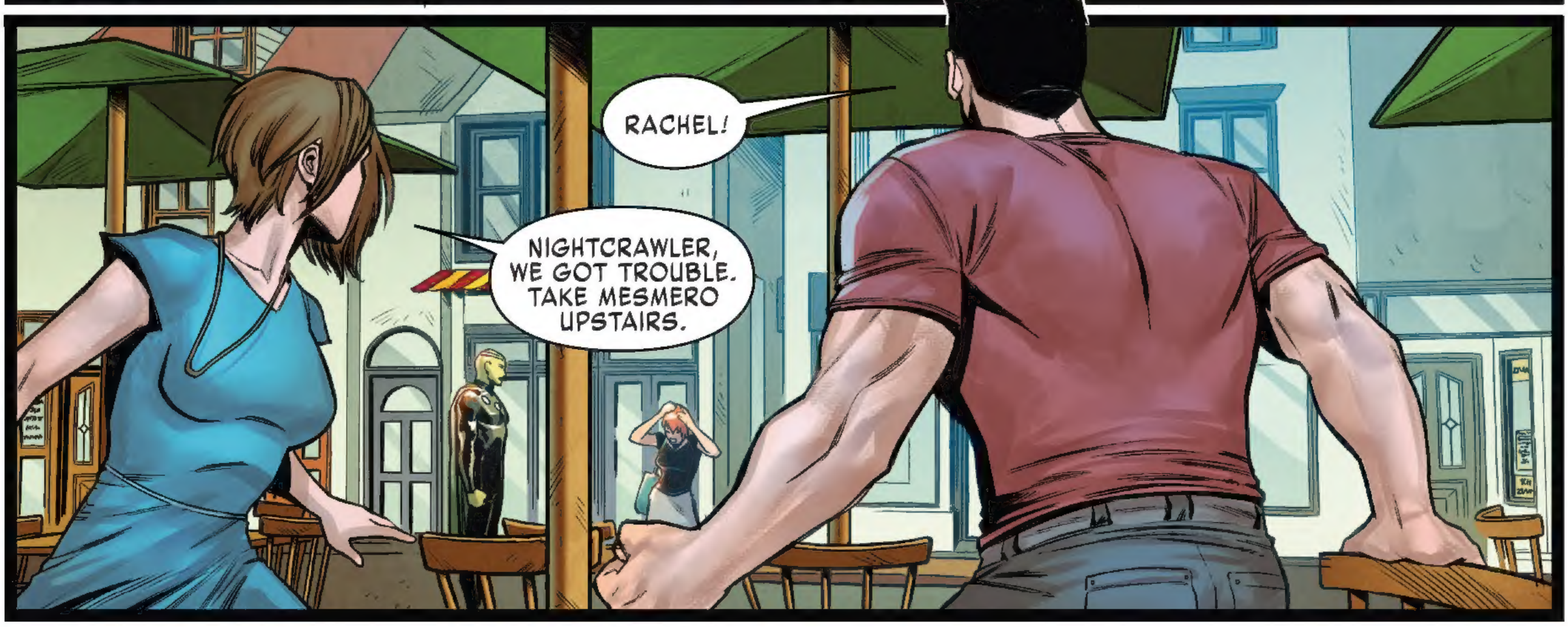

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
RACHEL HASN'T BEEN WELL. KURT SAYS HER HOUND "FLASH-FORWARDS" ARE BECOMING MORE FREQUENT.
AND MESMERO IS A FORMIDABLE TELEPATH.
RACHEL CAN HANDLE HIM.


"SHE'S AS TOUGH AS THEY COME."
EXCUSE ME.
BUMP
HELLO, DEAR...

...SO GUSHINGLY LOVELY TO SEE YOU AGAIN.


ALL THOSE TIMES I'VE BEEN IN YOUR HEAD...
I'VE BEEN CRAVING ANOTHER CHANCE.

GNNGUG--
EACH TIME OUR PSYCHES HAVE TOUCHED, I'VE MADE SOME *IMPROVEMENTS.*
REALLY HOPE YOU DON'T MIND.


RACHEL!
NIGHTCRAWLER, WE GOT TROUBLE. TAKE MESMERO UPSTAIRS.

GGGGHH...
BAMF
JA. MESMERO, MEET...
BAMF
...ANNA MARIE.
HI, SUGAH.
SHRAM
BAMF
AH GOT OUR GUY'S ATTENTION.

KRAKATHOOM

THANKS, STORM.

LOVE THE NEW LOOK, BY THE BY.

THANK YOU, ROGUE.

BAMF
RACHEL!
MEINE LIEBE?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I'M OKAY.
"OKAY..."

ROBERT KELLY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY FOR HOMO SUPERIOR.
A.K.A. THE BOX.

...TRY NOT TO LET HIM ESCAPE THIS TIME.

COULD SAY THE SAME ABOUT YOU AND YOURS.*

*THE X-MEN WERE "GUESTS" INCARCERATED IN THE BOX IN GOLD #23 & #24. --D.S.!

THE CHARGES AGAINST THE X-MEN WERE DROPPED.

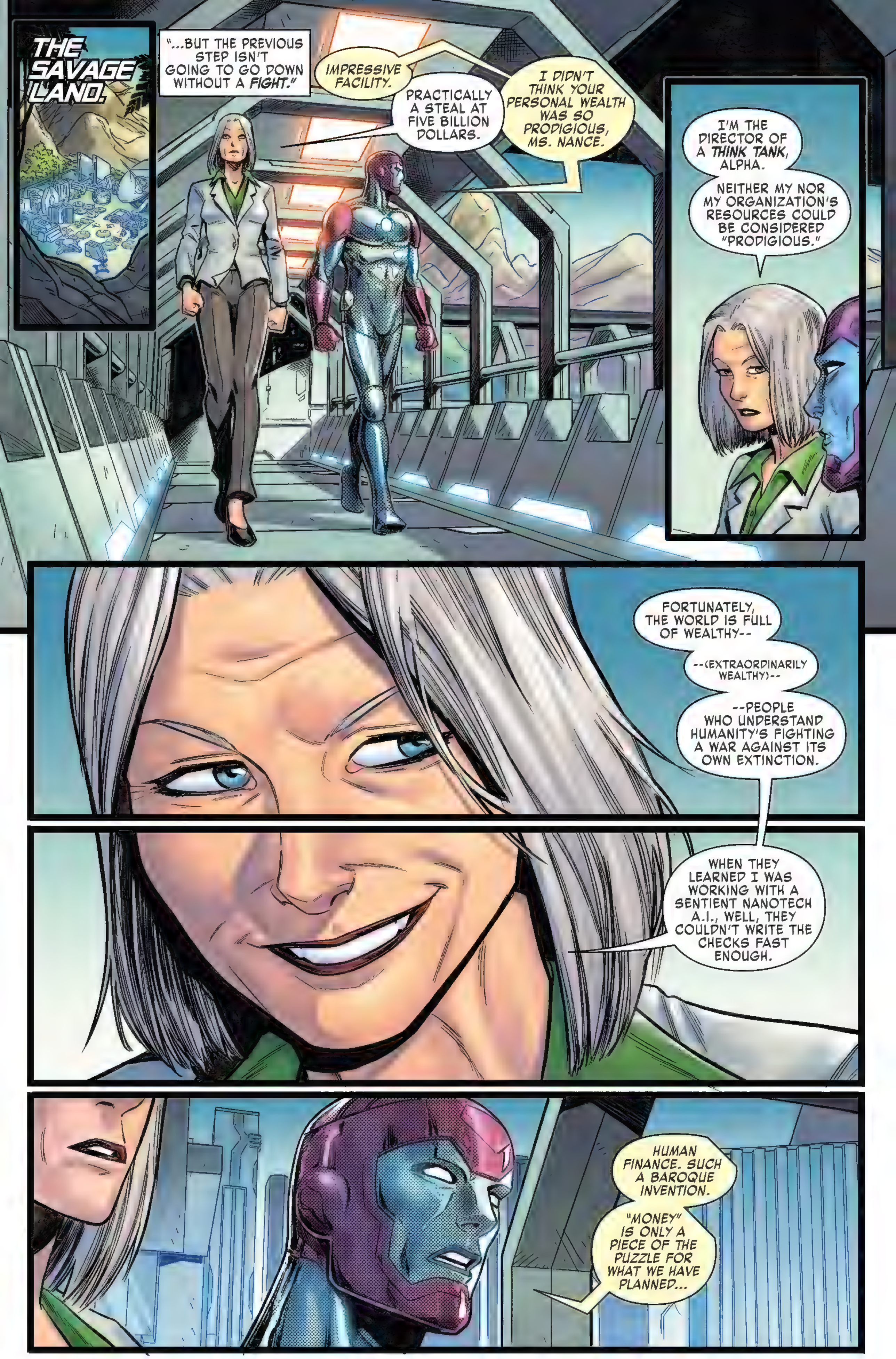
NOT THE CHARGES OF BEING MUTANTS.

YOUR VERY *EXISTENCE* IS A CRIME.

THANKS FOR NOT BEING SUBTLE. I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW *REFRESHING* IT IS TO MEET AN HONEST *BIGOT*.

IT'S NOT BIGOTRY. IT'S SURVIVAL.

MUTANTS ARE THE NEXT STEP IN EVOLUTION...


THE SAVAGE LAND.
"...BUT THE PREVIOUS STEP ISN'T GOING TO GO DOWN WITHOUT A FIGHT."
IMPRESSIVE FACILITY.
PRACTICALLY A STEAL AT FIVE BILLION DOLLARS.
I DIDN'T THINK YOUR PERSONAL WEALTH WAS SO PRODIGIOUS, MS. NANCE.
I'M THE DIRECTOR OF A THINK TANK, ALPHA.
NEITHER MY NOR MY ORGANIZATION'S RESOURCES COULD BE CONSIDERED "PRODIGIOUS."
FORTUNATELY, THE WORLD IS FULL OF WEALTHY--
--(EXTRAORDINARILY WEALTHY)--
--PEOPLE WHO UNDERSTAND HUMANITY'S FIGHTING A WAR AGAINST ITS OWN EXTINCTION.
WHEN THEY LEARNED I WAS WORKING WITH A SENTIENT NANOTECH A.I., WELL, THEY COULDN'T WRITE THE CHECKS FAST ENOUGH.
HUMAN FINANCE. SUCH A BAROQUE INVENTION.
"MONEY" IS ONLY A PIECE OF THE PUZZLE FOR WHAT WE HAVE PLANNED...

"...OR, RATHER, ONE PERSON."

OKAY, BOBBY. LEMME SEE IF I'M UNDERSTANDING THIS RIGHT...

XAVIER INSTITUTE FOR MUTANT EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.
HEADMISTRESS PRYDE'S OFFICE.

...WHILE I WAS IN PRISON, YOU THOUGHT IT WAS A GOOD IDEA TO PUT A MEMBER OF THE FLAMIN' ***BROTHERHOOD OF EVIL MUTANTS*** ON THE TEAM.

HEY, YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SAID I SHOULD LEAD A TEAM OF MY OWN, REMEMBER?*

STOCKING IT WITH ***SUPER VILLAINS*** ISN'T WHAT I HAD IN MIND.

*SEE THE RECENT ***ICEMAN*** SERIES. --D.S.!

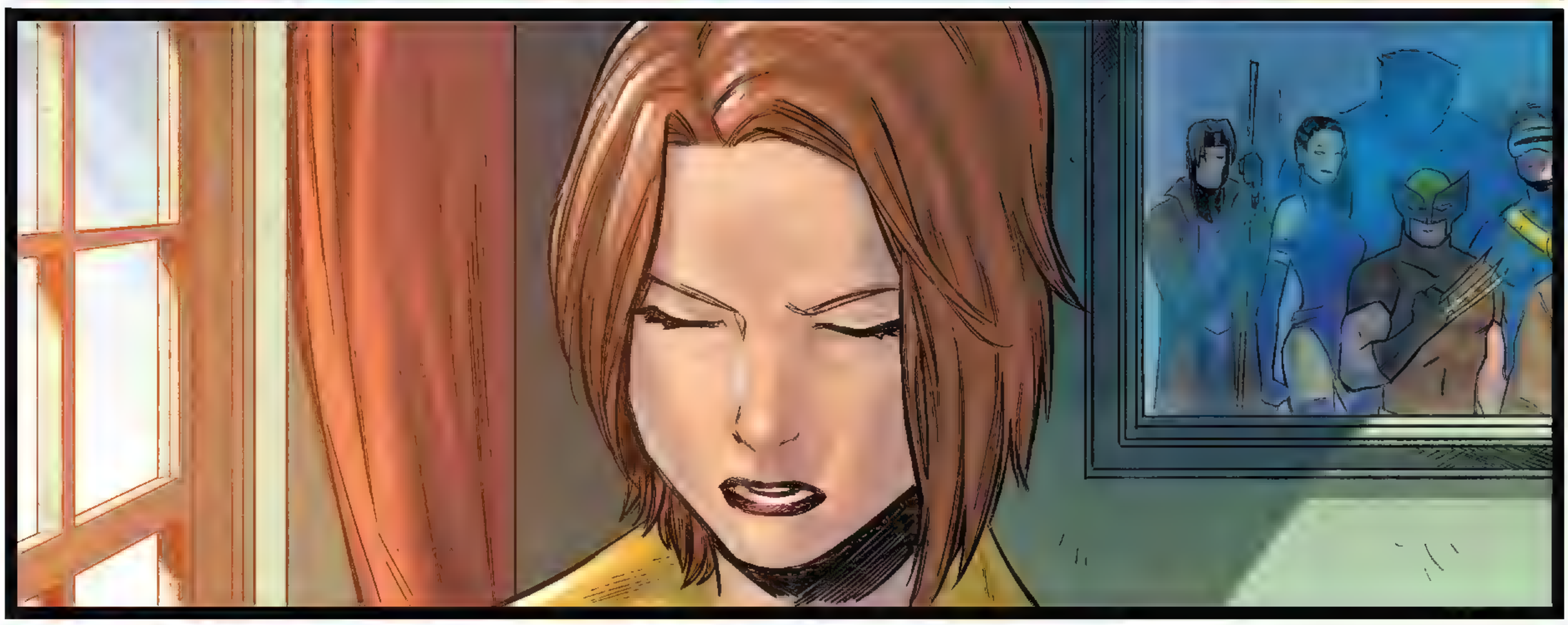
PYRO AND THE BROTHERHOOD ATTACKED THE UNITED NATIONS, KIDNAPPED LOGAN, NEARLY GOT US ALL KILLED AT LEAST TWICE...

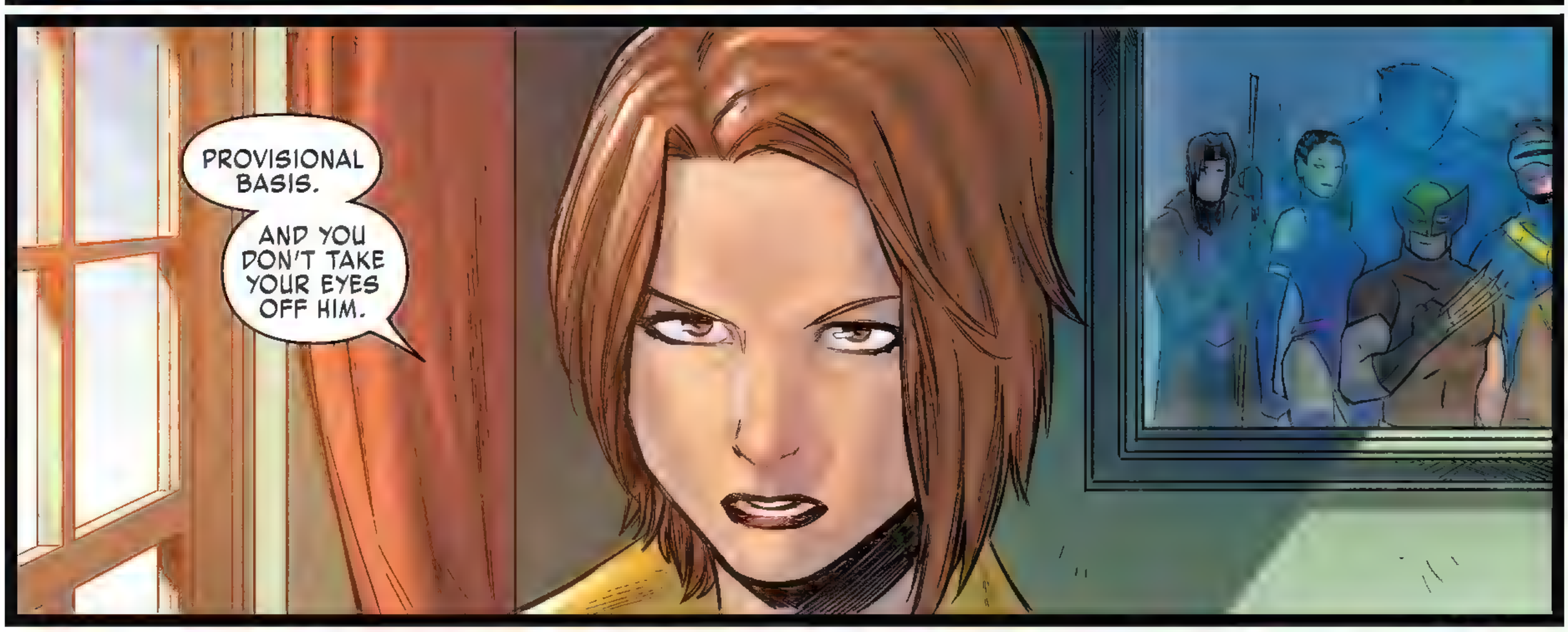
AND THAT WAS BEFORE MESMERO--YOUR FRIEND PYRO'S FRIEND--GOT US THROWN IN PRISON.

MESMERO WAS MANIPULATING HIM, KITTY. PLAYING AROUND IN HIS HEAD.

EVERYTHING YOU'RE DESCRIBING, HE DOESN'T HAVE THE FIRST CLUE WHETHER IT WAS EVER REALLY HIS OWN DECISION.

BUT HE'S STILL LOOKING TO MAKE WHAT HE DID RIGHT. TO BALANCE THE LEDGER.
AND HE WOULDN'T EXACTLY BE THE FIRST BROTHERHOOD ALUM WE'VE HAD ON THE TEAM.



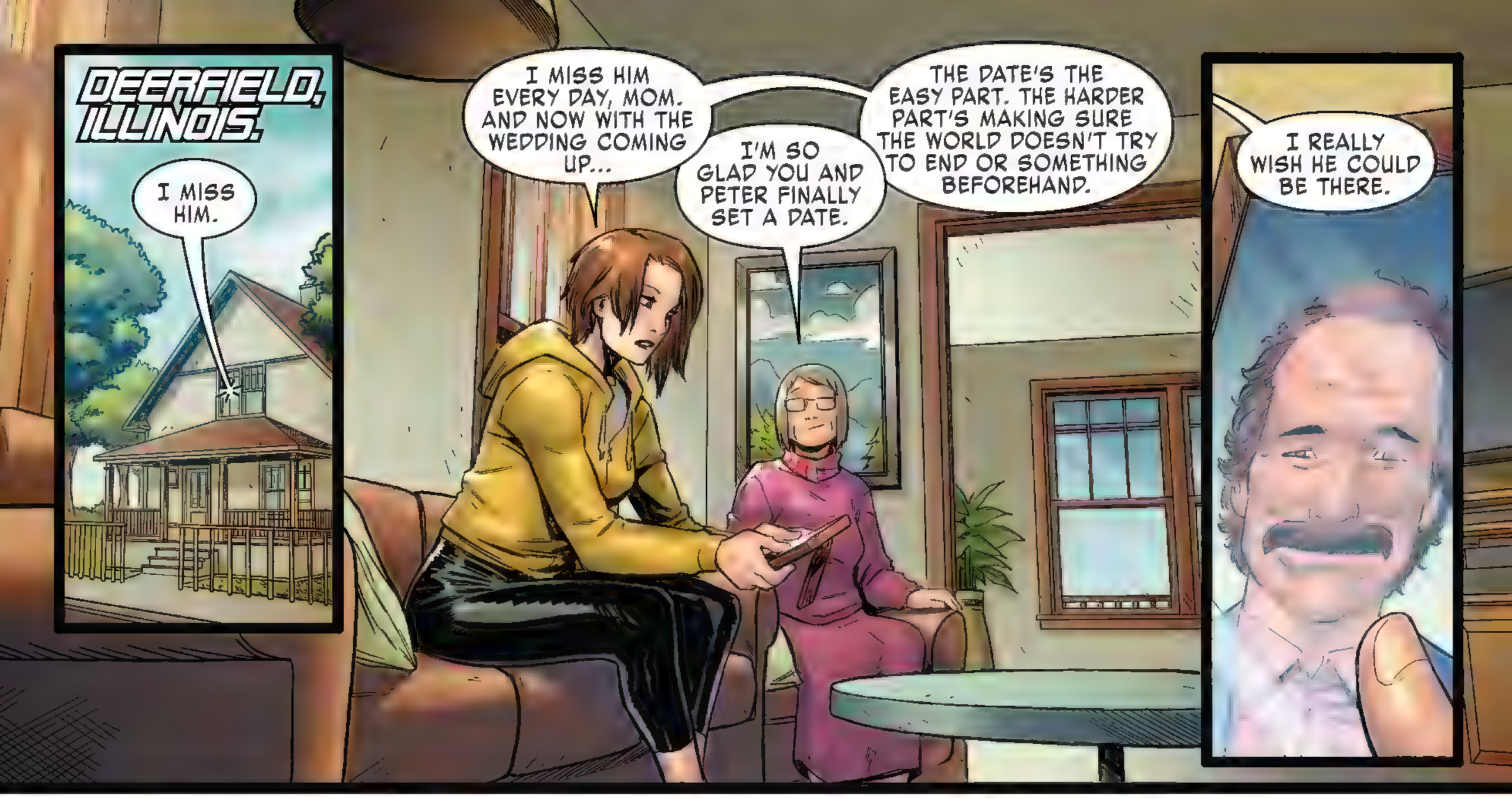

PROVISIONAL BASIS.
AND YOU DON'T TAKE YOUR EYES OFF HIM.

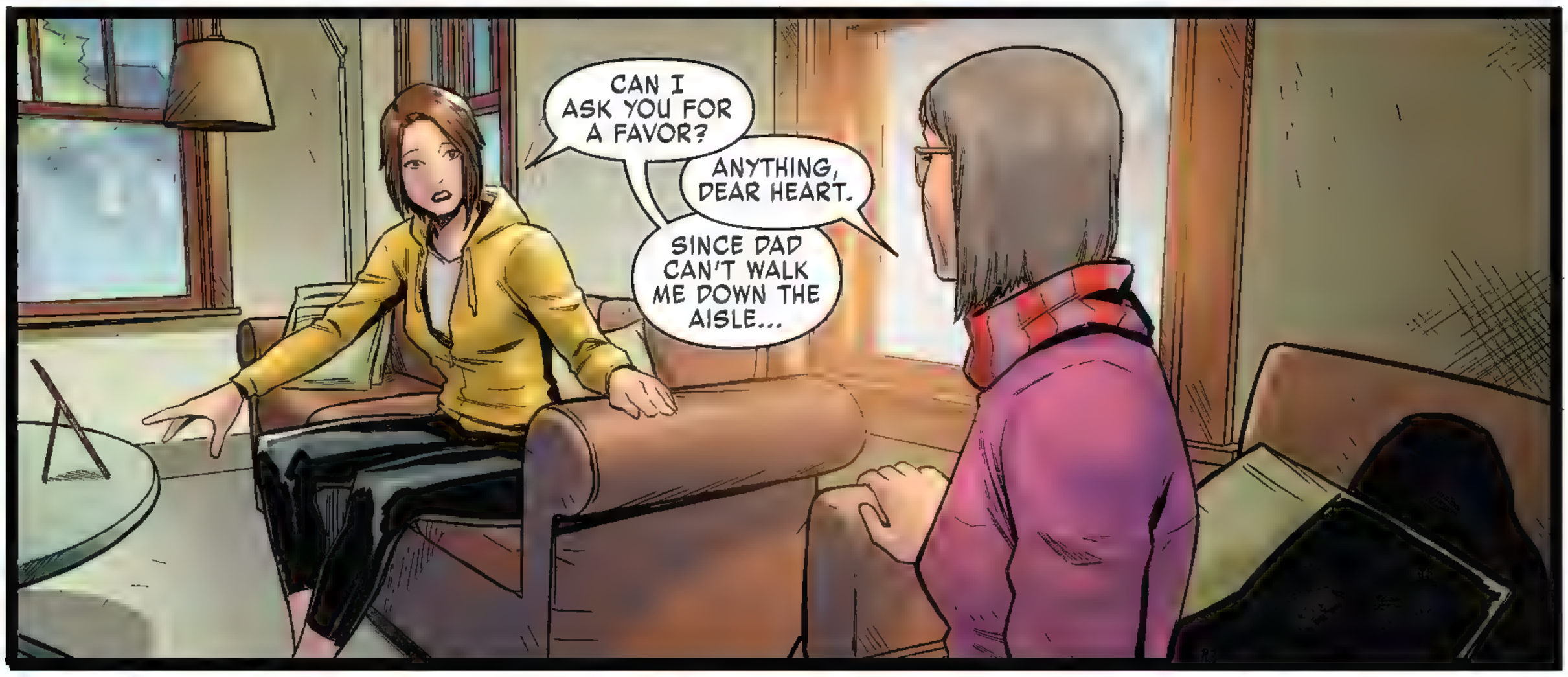
DONE.

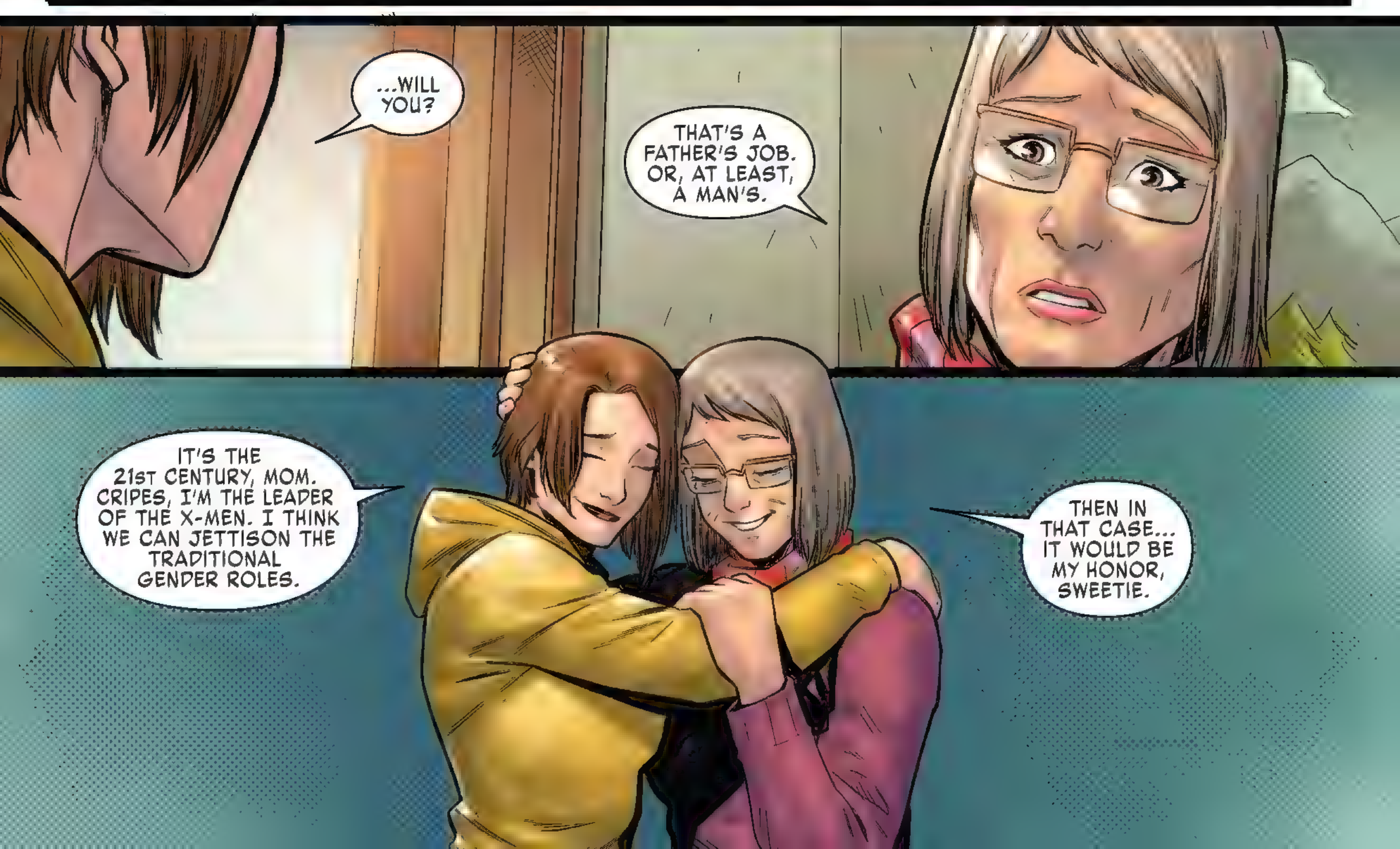
THE DANGER ROOM.

JUST ABOUT.

IN SANTA MARCO, KATYA SUGGESTED WE MIGHT BE GETTING... COLD FEET.
ARE YOU? I MEAN, THE TWO OF YOU?
WE'VE SET A WEDDING DATE.
PETER, THAT'S WONDERFUL!
IT'S A STEP. ONE I AM GLAD WE'VE TAKEN.
THIS CALLS FOR A CELEBRATION!
IT REALLY DOES NOT.
BACHELOR PARTY! LAS VEGAS!!!
WE'RE STILL A FEW WEEKS AWAY FROM--
MR. SINISTER COULD ATTACK. OR ANOTHER BROTHERHOOD OF EVIL MUTANTS. OR OMEGA RED. OR GALACTUS.
WE HAVE A LIMITED WINDOW.
I'M OFF TO MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS!
POOF
*SIGH*


DEERFIELD, ILLINOIS.
I MISS HIM.
I MISS HIM EVERY DAY, MOM. AND NOW WITH THE WEDDING COMING UP...
I'M SO GLAD YOU AND PETER FINALLY SET A DATE.
THE DATE'S THE EASY PART. THE HARDER PART'S MAKING SURE THE WORLD DOESN'T TRY TO END OR SOMETHING BEFOREHAND.
I REALLY WISH HE COULD BE THERE.

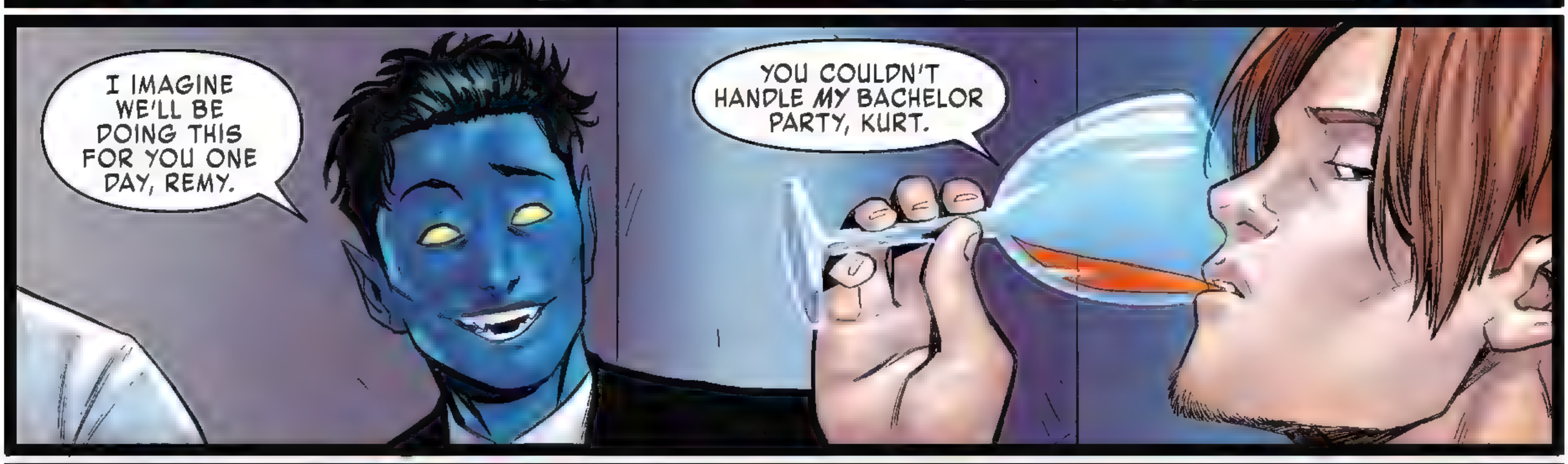

CAN I ASK YOU FOR A FAVOR?
ANYTHING, DEAR HEART.
SINCE DAD CAN'T WALK ME DOWN THE AISLE...

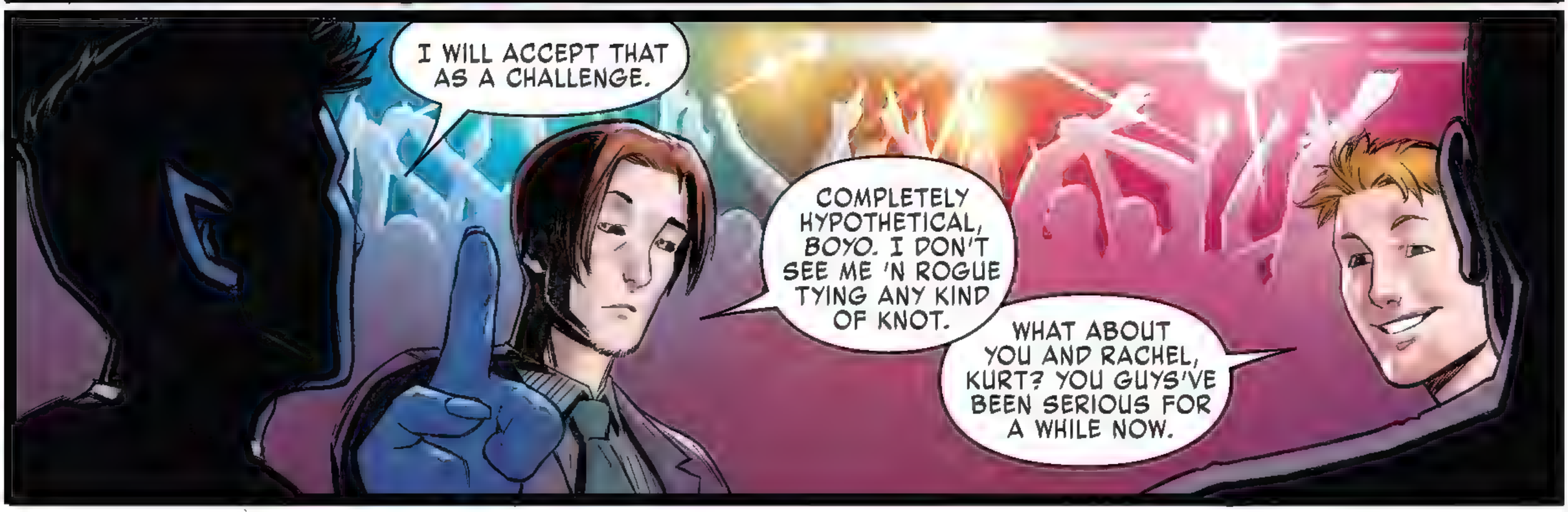

...WILL YOU?
THAT'S A FATHER'S JOB. OR, AT LEAST, A MAN'S.
IT'S THE 21ST CENTURY, MOM. CRIPES, I'M THE LEADER OF THE X-MEN. I THINK WE CAN JETTISON THE TRADITIONAL GENDER ROLES.
THEN IN THAT CASE... IT WOULD BE MY HONOR, SWEETIE.

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA.

THANKS FOR BRINGING ME ALONG, GUYS. REALLY COOL OF YOU.
IT'S ALL GOOD, SIMON.
ARE YOU EVEN OLD ENOUGH TO BE HERE?
HE WAS OLD ENOUGH FOR THE CASINO.

DO NOT REMIND ME ABOUT THE CASINO.*
DON'T PAY ATTENTION TO HIM, BOYS. OUR PETER HERE HAS NEVER LET HIS HAIR DOWN BEFORE. IT'S GOING TO TAKE A LITTLE TIME.
*SEE X-MEN: THE WEDDING SPECIAL! --DS


I IMAGINE WE'LL BE DOING THIS FOR YOU ONE DAY, REMY.
YOU COULDN'T HANDLE MY BACHELOR PARTY, KURT.


I WILL ACCEPT THAT AS A CHALLENGE.
COMPLETELY HYPOTHETICAL, BOYO. I DON'T SEE ME 'N ROGUE TYING ANY KIND OF KNOT.
WHAT ABOUT YOU AND RACHEL, KURT? YOU GUYS'VE BEEN SERIOUS FOR A WHILE NOW.

YES. WHEN SHE HASN'T BEEN COMATOSE OR FIGHTING HER INNER DEMONS, IT'S BEEN A LOVELY RELATIONSHIP.

AT LEAST YOU'RE IN ONE, BROTHER.

PETER. WHERE YOU GOING?

THE BATHROOM.

AYEE, THAT'S NO HAPPY BOYO.

"IT'S LIKE WE'RE TORTURING THE POOR BASTARD."

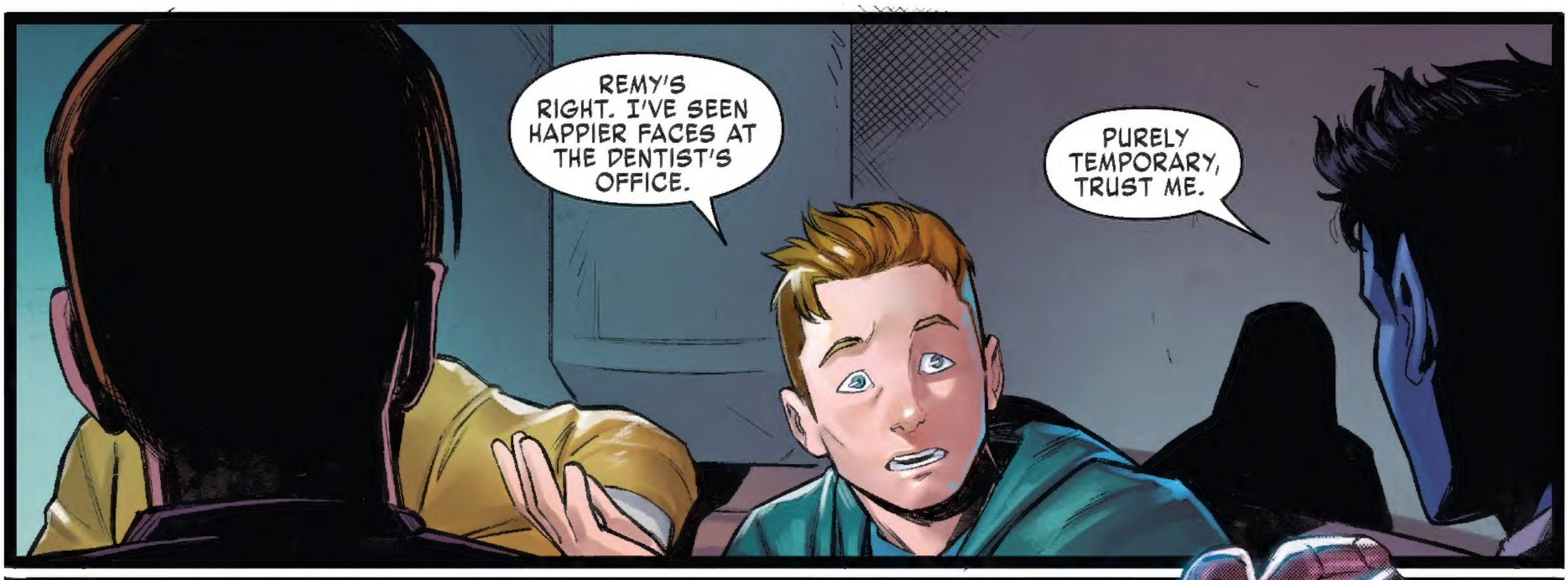
CHTO TY ZDES' DELAYESH', MOY DRUG?

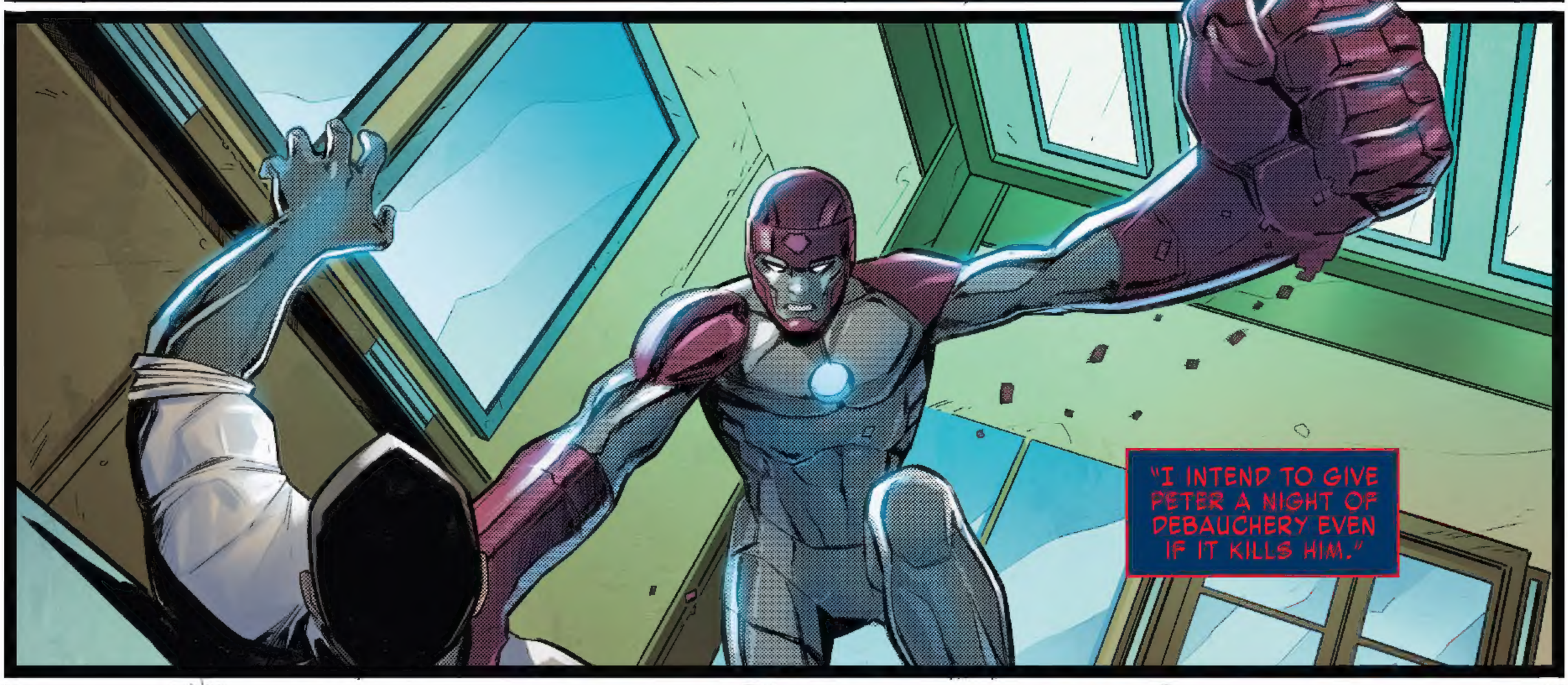
A MOST EXCELLENT QUESTION.

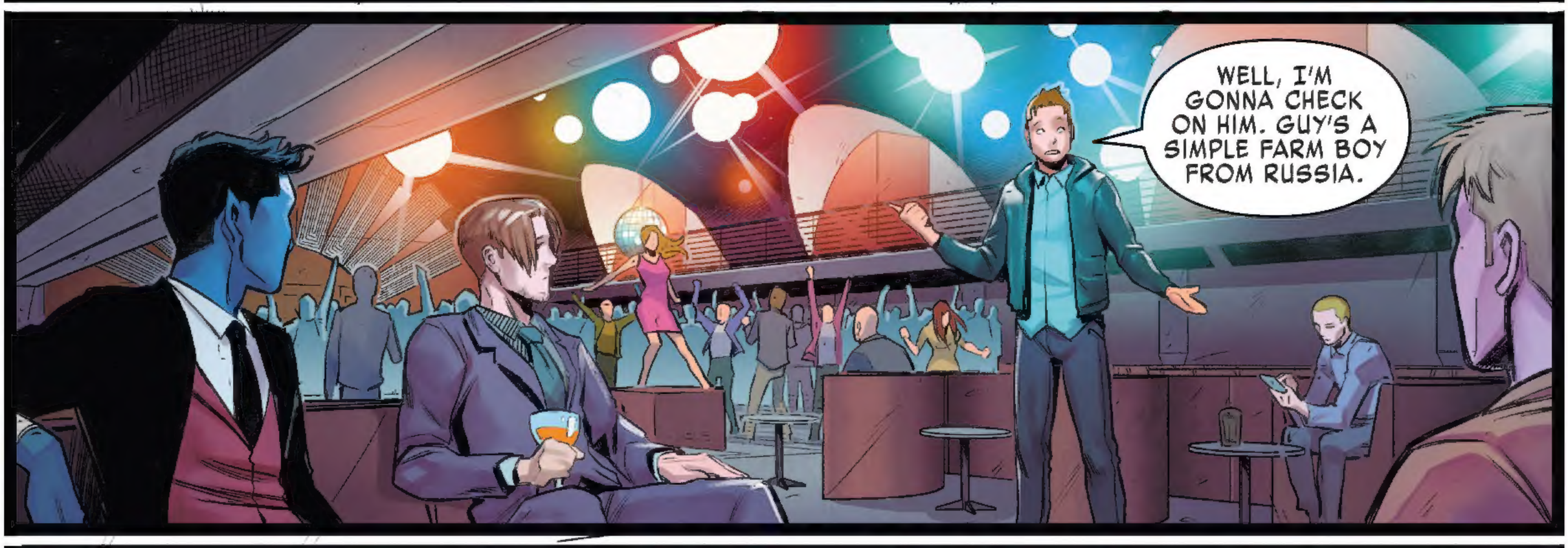
YOU ASK WHAT YOU ARE DOING HERE?

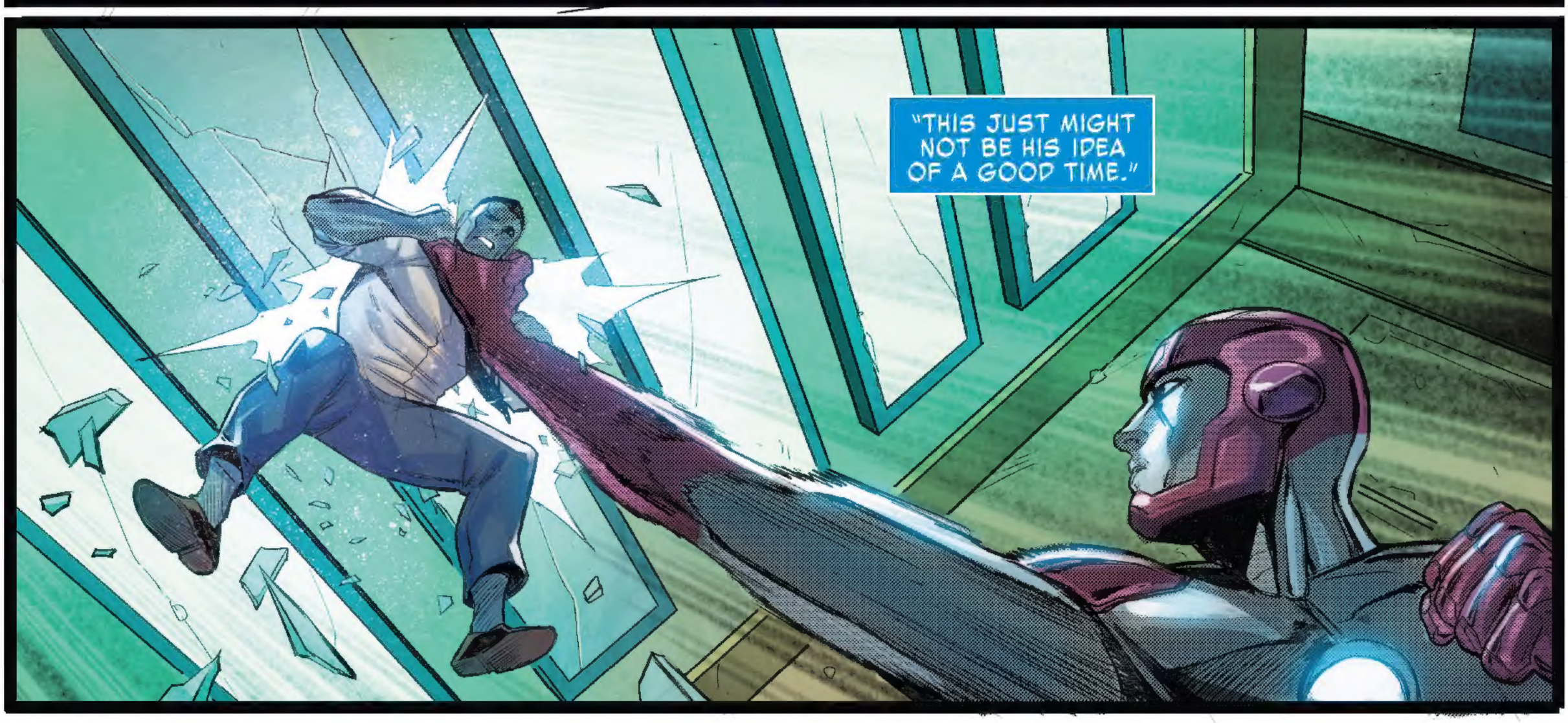
PERMIT ME TO PROVIDE AN ANSWER.

I REMEMBER YOU. A MUTANT SENTINEL. ADVANCED A.I. MERGED WITH NANOTECH.
YOU WILL PUNCH EASY ENOUGH.
YOU WOULD THINK.
THAT'S THE THING ABOUT NANOTECHNOLOGY-- IT MAKES ME A SWARM OF MICROSCOPIC NANITES.
NANITES I CONTROL.
"I'M WORRIED ABOUT PETER."


REMY'S RIGHT. I'VE SEEN HAPPIER FACES AT THE DENTIST'S OFFICE.
PURELY TEMPORARY, TRUST ME.


"I INTEND TO GIVE PETER A NIGHT OF DEBAUCHERY EVEN IF IT KILLS HIM."


WELL, I'M GONNA CHECK ON HIM. GUY'S A SIMPLE FARM BOY FROM RUSSIA.


"THIS JUST MIGHT NOT BE HIS IDEA OF A GOOD TIME."

TO BE CONTINUED!

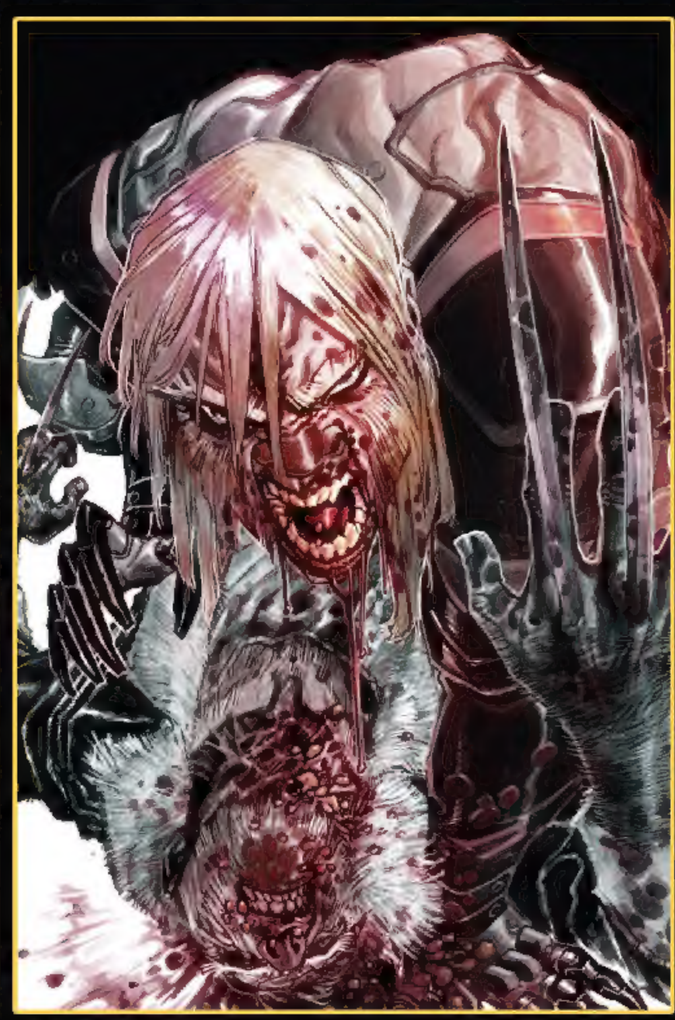
# X-MEN GOLD

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO
OFFICEX@MARVEL.COM

IN TWO WEEKS...

## #27: HEART OF STEEL

**WEAPON X #16**
ON SALE NOW



**X-MEN BLUE #26**
NEXT WEEK

**DOMINO #2**
IN THREE WEEKS

ZONE